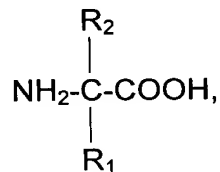


D1
cont.
analysed, wherein the greater or lesser amount of fluorescence activity is due to the respective presence or absence in the exogenously administered polypeptide, relative to the endogenous polypeptide, of a fluorescent amino acid residue or a synthetic amino acid derivative, in the amino acid backbone of the polypeptide, the synthetic amino acid derivative having the formula



wherein R₁ comprises the fluorophore and R₂ is H, OH, halide or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl.

D2
3. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the sample is subjected to processing, prior to analysis, by one or more of the following: centrifugation; HPLC; FPLC; affinity chromatography; immunoaffinity chromatography; denaturation; or heat treatment.

5. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the sample comprises one or more of the following: blood; saliva; urine; semen; or tears.

D3
6. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the exogenously administered polypeptide has greater fluorescence activity, at the wavelength analysed, than the endogenous polypeptide.

D3
cont.
7. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the exogenously administered polypeptide comprises one or more fluorophores not present in the endogenous polypeptide.

8. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein a compound comprising a tagging fluorophore is incorporated in the exogenously administered polypeptide by means of a peptide bond.

D4
10. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the exogenously administered polypeptide comprises a tagged therapeutic polypeptide and/or tagged hormone.

11. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the exogenously administered polypeptide comprises one of the following: a tagged human, bovine or porcine growth hormone; tagged calcitonin; tagged erythropoietin; tagged growth hormone releasing factor; tagged insulin; or tagged interleukin-2.

12. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the exogenously administered polypeptide comprises growth hormone tagged with a tryptophan residue at one or more positions 10, 31, 97, 160 or 176.

27. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the endogenously administered polypeptide comprises a substitution, relative to the endogenous polypeptide, of one or more phenylalanine or tyrosine residues with a corresponding number of tryptophan residues.

Please see the attached Appendix for changes made to the above claims.